

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 02446 280826Z

ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2881

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMCONGEN HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, KS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN BUYER PROGRAM: KOREAN PURCHASING MISSION

REF: SEOUL 2147; SEOUL 2305; SEOUL 2352; USDOC 5140

USDOC PLEASE PASS ANNETTE NAPPER RM. 2322; PHONE 377-3265

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PLEASE PASS MARVIN JOHNSON, STATE OF GEORGIA,
PHONE 403-9541

AMCONGEN HONG KONG PLEASE PASS HENRY GREEN STATE OF ILLINOIS,
PHONE 5-451099

1. THE FOLLOWING IS MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
CHANG YIE JOON'S STATEMENT OUTLINING THE PURPOSE AND GOALS
OF SUBJECT MISSION. QUOTE THE CONTINUATION OF GOOD WILL AND
MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN KOREA AND THE
UNITED STATES DEPENDS ON CLOSE COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

KOREA HAS BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN RELATIVELY STABLE GROWTH
BY ITS SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF THE PAST THREE 5-YEAR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS. KOREA HAS BEEN ABLE TO DO
THIS DESPITE ITS POOR ENDOWMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
THE DEVASTATION OF THE KOREAN WAR IN THE 1950'S.

QUOTE: WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED IN THESE SHORT YEARS WOULD HAVE
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BEEN IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT THE GENEROUS MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL
ASSISTANCE FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. INDEED, THE KOREAN-
AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP IS BEING TRANSFORMED FROM THE DONOR-
RECIPIENT TIES TO A FULL-FLEDGED TRADING PARTNERSHIP.

QUOTE: WE, AS A MISSION, ARE HERE IN THE UNITED STATES AS A GESTURE
OF OUR GOODWILL TOWARD THE UNITED STATES AND ITS GREAT
PEOPLE.

QUOTE: IT IS MY PRIVILEGE AND PLEASURE TO LEAD THIS "KOREAN PURCHASING MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES" WHICH IS COMPOSED OF ABOUT 25 TOP BUSINESS LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM KOREA.

QUOTE: WE CARRY WITH US A LONG LIST OF ITEMS OF INTEREST, ALL OF WHICH WE WANT TO BUY FROM YOU EVENTUALLY. WE GIVE FULL CREDIT TO AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS AND/OR SUPPLIERS FOR THEIR HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTS AND EXCELLENT SERVICE. I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL FIND THIS PURCHASING TEAM QUITE KNOWLEDGEABLE, STRAIGHT-FORWARD AND WORKABLE.

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IT IS MY SINCERE HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT MANY BUYING CONTACTS WILL BE CONCLUDED DURING THIS MISSION'S STAY IN YOUR COUNTRY AND MANY MORE THEREAFTER. END QUOTE.

2. MISSION LEADERS HAVE INFORMED US THAT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN NOTIFIED REGARDING COURTESY CALLS FOR OFFICIAL RPT OFFICIAL MEMBERS ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS/TRADE ORGANIZATIONS, PRESS COVERAGE, NOR HOTEL/TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS. REQUEST USDOC PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO INSURE THIS HIGH-POWERED MISSION SUCCEED. PLEASE ADVISE POST ASAP.

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